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March 17, 2003

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Honorable F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr.
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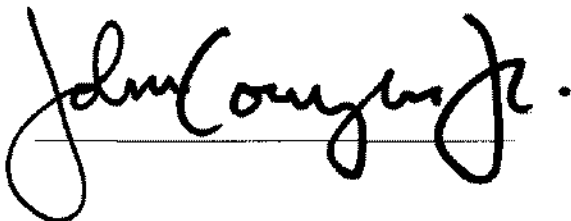
Dear Chairman Sensenbrenner:

We are writing to request that the "National AMBER Alert Network Act of 2003," S. 121, which unanimously passed the Senate earlier this year, be added as an agenda item to the Judiciary Committee's mark-up.

While the essence of the Senate-passed bill is included in H.R. 1104, the "Child Abduction and Prevention Act of 2003", that legislation also includes additional provisions which are controversial in the Senate as well as to many Members on this Committee and the House. As we learned last Congress, the inclusion of these extraneous provisions is likely to prevent quick passage of the non-controversial, bi-partisan AMBER Alert provisions. If the Senate-passed version, however, is passed by the Committee tomorrow, it could pass quickly in the House and receive the President's signature quickly thereafter. The remainder of the Child Abduction Prevention Act could then be considered on its merits and proceed on a separate track without jeopardizing the AMBER ALERT provisions of the bill.

The National Center for Missing and Exploited children has indicated that if a child is not found within 24 hours, the chances of finding that child safe are very, very remote. Therefore, each day we wait to act, we place additional children at risk. Accordingly, we respectfully request that you add S.121, which has already been referred to the Committee, to tomorrow's markup.

Sincerely,



Honorable F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr.

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